

Life After AmeriCorps Resources

Developed by the Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service, Dec. 2012

Completing a year of service sets a milestone in the life of an AmeriCorps member. It is a time of transition, a time for new beginnings. The resources listed here have been gathered to help AmeriCorps members in this transition, and AmeriCorps program staff design trainings around this time of transition. Included are general resources, resources for job seeking, skills assessment, pursuing educational opportunities, and continuing an active life of volunteerism.

General Resources

“What’s Next: Life After Your Service Year”

This on-line tutorial is designed to help AmeriCorps and VISTA members transitioning from their year of service. Included are journaling activities to help members plan for their future regarding continuing education, establishing a career and continuing in service. <http://encorps.nationalserviceresources.org/whatsnext/index.shtml>

“AmeriCorps: Next Steps – Life After AmeriCorps”

This workbook is designed help AmeriCorps members transition from their service year. Included are activities to help member reflect on their personal and professional growth as a result of their AmeriCorps service, assess skills and accomplishments, weigh options for next steps and identify resources and strategies from transitioning from their year of service.

http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/filemanager/download/Next_Steps/NextSteps.pdf

“AmeriCorps: Next Steps – Life After AmeriCorps Workshop Materials”

A collection of materials useful for programs designing “Life After AmeriCorps” training sessions. Included are a PowerPoint presentation based on the “Next Steps” workbook, a calendar of activities for members during their year of service to prepare for post-service transition, and links to other information from the National Service Knowledge Network.

<http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/ameri-corps-next-steps-life-after-ameri-corps-workshop-materials>

“Training Brief: Closing Service and Opening New Doors”

Information for program staff from the National Service Knowledge Network on designing end of service activities and training for your AmeriCorps members.

<http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/training-brief-doors>

Information for AmeriCorps Alumni from the CNCS

Includes information on becoming a VISTA or NCCC team leader, recruiting and supporting members, and a link to the MyAmeriCorps Portal.

http://www.americorps.gov/for_individuals/alumni/index.asp

AmeriCorps Alums

A nonprofit organization dedicated to serving alumni of AmeriCorps programs. The site allows you search for jobs, stay aware of events and volunteer opportunities, and stay connected with fellow members.

<http://www.americorpsalums.org/>

Skills Assessment and Career Research

Most colleges and universities have a career counseling and placement office that offer skills assessments, career research and advising services to students and alumni. If you are affiliated with an institution of higher education, it may be worth researching this avenue as it can provide individualized contact with a career counselor.

My Next Move

My Next Move is an interactive tool for job seekers and students to learn more about their career options. My Next Move has tasks, skills, salary information, and more for over 900 different careers. Users can find careers through keyword search; by browsing industries that employ different types of workers; or through the O*NET Interest Profiler, a tool that offers personalized career suggestions based on a person's interests and level of work experience.

<http://www.mynextmove.org/>

Occupational Outlook Handbook

The profiles featured here cover hundreds of occupations and describe What They Do, Work Environment, How to Become One, Pay, and more. Each profile also includes employment projections for the 2010–20 decade. From the U.S. Department of Labor.

<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/>

ISEEK Skills Assessment

A self-directed skills assessment tool that matches skills you find important to occupations.

<http://www.iseek.org/careers/skillsAssessment>

Queendom Career Personality and Aptitude Test

This test is designed to assess your interests, values and preferences and match you to a particular career.

http://www.queendom.com/tests/access_page/index.htm?idRegTest=3078

Testing Room

This site offers free personality, career interest, and career values test to help you identify careers that match your interests.

<http://www.testingroom.com/>

Kentucky Office of Employment and Training Job Seeker Services

This site links to many employment opportunities and resources, including a link to the Kentucky Career Center.

<http://www.oet.ky.gov/jobseeker/jobopenings.htm>

Job Seeking-General Information, Resumes, and Cover Letters

“Finding a job that builds on your service”

Brief information from the Corporation for National and Community Service on job seeking. Includes a link to employment opportunities with the CNCS and information about the eligibility for non-competitive federal employment for former AmeriCorps*VISTA members.

http://www.americorps.gov/for_individuals/current/job.asp

“Finding a job after AmeriCorps service”

More in-depth information on job seeking from the National Service Knowledge Network. Includes a list of online sources for job opportunities and career guidance.

<http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/practices/17068>

Career Path

This site offers advice and resources for those seeking employment. Includes skills assessments, job matching tools, resume writing tools, job searching and more.

<http://www.careerpath.com/>

The Riley Guide

An extensive directory of employment, career, and higher education information sources. Includes information on preparing cover letters and resumes, researching employers and educational institutions, career matching assessments and finding employment.

<http://www.rileyguide.com/>

Resume-Resource

An excellent resource for those seeking information on resumes and cover letters. Includes examples, resume builders, templates and guides to writing resumes and cover letters.

<http://www.resume-resource.com/>

About.com – Job Searching

A comprehensive collection of resources for cover letters, resumes, and other employment related correspondence.

<http://jobsearch.about.com/od/resumes/u/resumesandletters.htm>

Free Resume Test

This site offers a quiz and evaluates your resume based on your answers to offer guidance on improving your resume. Provides useful information for fine-tuning your resume to help it stand out in a crowd.

<http://www.freeresumetest.com/>

Job Seeking-Employment Opportunities

Idealist.org

An excellent resource for locating volunteer opportunities and employment in the non-profit sector. Search for volunteer opportunities, jobs, internships, events, organizations and more.

<http://www.idealist.org/>

Kentucky Educator Placement Service

A service of the Kentucky Department of Education dedicated to helping job applicants and school districts fill certified vacancies. Allows for job search and adding a profile to receive e-mail notifications of job openings in your area of interest.

<https://applications.education.ky.gov/keps/Default.aspx>

Indeed.com

Search for employment opportunities worldwide with indeed.com. This site also allows you to save searches and create e-mail notifications of new opportunities based on those searches.

<http://www.indeed.com/>

Monster.com

In addition to searching for jobs, this site also offers resume writing services, career advice, company profiles, and more.

<http://www.monster.com/>

Kentucky Personnel Cabinet

The portal to find employment and co-op/internship opportunities with the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

<http://personnel.ky.gov/employment/>

USAJOBS

Official job site of the US Federal Government. Search for open positions with the federal government. Also includes help with resumes, interviewing, hiring trends, writing and cover letter tips.

<https://my.usajobs.gov/>

Educational Opportunities

Segal AmeriCorps Education Award

This page explains the AmeriCorps education award including the amount, how to use the award, tax implications of the award and how to get interest paid.

http://www.americorps.gov/for_individuals/benefits/benefits_ed_award.asp

FAQ's About the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award

Answers to frequently asked questions about the education award from AmeriCorps Alums

<http://www.americorpsalums.org/?page=MBEdAwardQuestions>

Institutions that Provide Scholarships and Resources to AmeriCorps Alumni

This site provides a list of colleges and universities that offer education award matches or other scholarships to AmeriCorps alumni.

http://www.americorps.gov/for_individuals/benefits/ed_award_match.asp

In addition to the above list, the Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy at the University of Virginia offers a health care subsidy of \$2400 and a \$6000 fellowship for AmeriCorps alums.

<http://www.batten.virginia.edu/americorps-peacecorps>

Peterson's College Compatibility Tools

Helps prospective students find a college based on many factors, including majors, size, location, and special programs.

For undergraduate programs:

<http://www.petersons.com/college-search/college-compatibility-tool.aspx>

For graduate programs:

<http://www.petersons.com/graduate-schools.aspx>

US News – Finding the Right School

Advice, tips, articles and search tools to help prospective students find the right college or university.

For undergraduate programs:

<http://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/right-school>

For graduate programs:

<http://grad-schools.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-graduate-schools>

Volunteering

All for Good

This site is an excellent resource to both find and share opportunities to volunteer.

<http://www.allforgood.org/>

United We Serve

United We Serve is an initiative of the Corporation for National and Community Service. This site links to various volunteer opportunities and contains many toolkits for starting service projects.

<http://www.serve.gov/>

Volunteer Match

This site allows you to find volunteer opportunities or recruit volunteers for your organization or project.

<http://www.volunteermatch.org/>